

VOL 7

SAGE'S

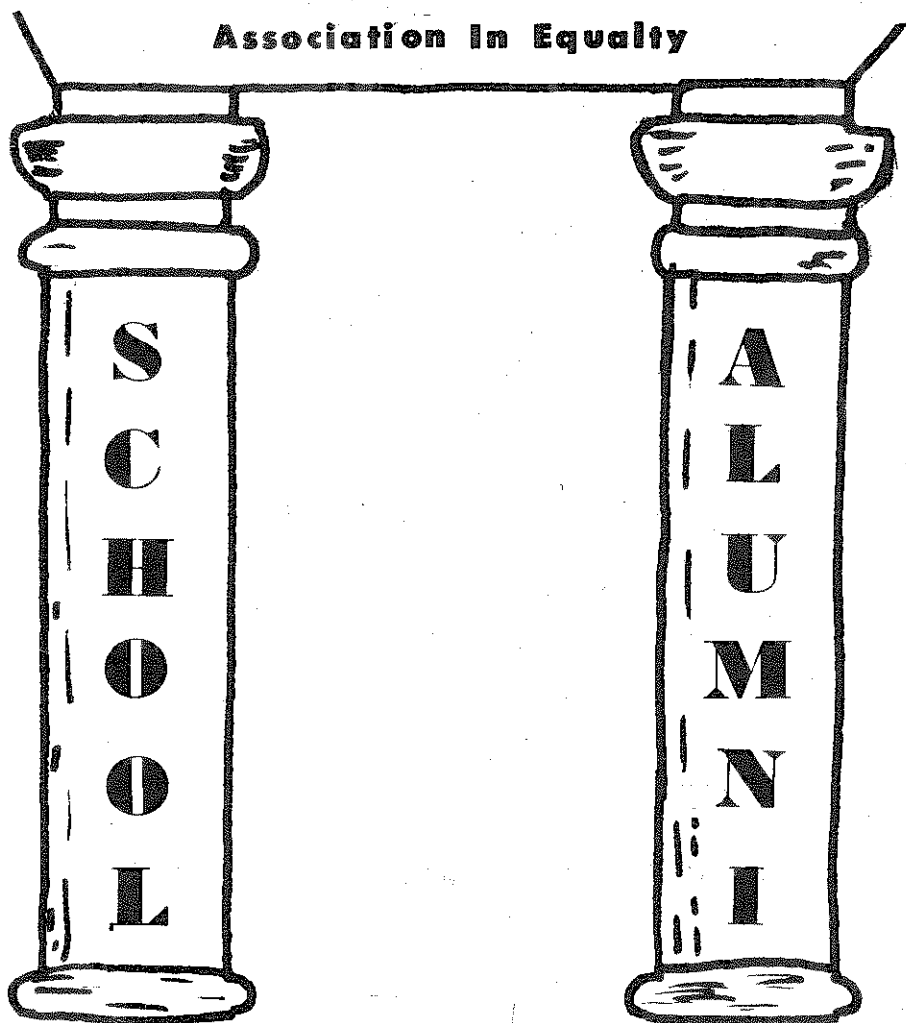
NO 4

PAGES

FALL

1955

Association In Equality



SAGE'S PAGES

Sage's Pages--Published every other month by the Alumni of the Henry George School of Social Science, 50 East 69 Street, New York 21, N.Y.

Editorial Board: Roma Bianco, Chairman, Neva Bianco, James Murphy, Vivian Kiliaen-Rodney, Larry Kobak.

HENRY GEORGE

(Every issue will find a pertinent quotation from Henry George in this spot.)

"The political art, like the military, consists in massing the greatest force against the least resistance, and to bring a principle most quickly and effectively into practical politics, the measure which presents it should be so moderate as (while involving the principle) to secure the largest support and execute the least resistance. For whether the first step be long or short is of little consequence. When a start is once made in the right direction, progress is a mere matter of keeping on."

* * * * *



HALLOWEEN Dance

HENRY GEORGE
SCHOOL ALUMNI

OCT. 29TH at 8:30 p.m.

only \$1.00

in advance \$1.25 at door
MUSIC by the LIGHTHOUSE ORCHESTRA.

at the HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL BALLROOM, 50 E. 69 ST.

Elaine Wener

sage

DISSOLUTION OR EVOLUTION ?

At the regular meeting held June 12th a decision was finally rendered by formal vote regarding the future operation of SAGE, and it was decided that henceforth in the best interests of all concerned (i.e. the school, the graduates, the very group itself) would be best served by fewer technicalities. Since this involved the charter, the constitution, etc., it was decided to allow the former to lapse and to drop the latter, and henceforth we would be known as the Alumni of the Henry George School of Social Science. In accordance with our original plan at the inception of SAGE about seven years ago, upon any change in the status of SAGE, or its dissolution, monies in the treasury would revert to the school. In this connection we were able, after a proper audit, of the books, to turn over a tidy sum to the school. Before doing so, however, SAGE presented to the School a fine 16mm motion picture camera, which was promptly put to use at the National Convention in Ohio and is now accompanying Norman Casserley, International Secretary for the School as well as Alumni Secretary, on his trip around the world in the interests of spreading Georgism.

Since the Alumni of the Henry George School will carry on regular monthly meetings, sponsor the entertainment of graduates, run the several dances held each year, and continue to publish SAGES PAGES, the group would seem to remain in status quo. There are however, the added advantages of closer cooperation with the School in the spreading of the philosophy of Henry George, all graduates of the school, in varying degrees become members of the Alumni, less formality means more time for special events, such as speakers, etc., at meetings, release of time, formerly consumed with "paper work" necessary to conduct the business of SAGE, for use in projects to promote Georgism, etc., etc.

Dissolution? - No! ... Evolution? - Yes! ... for SAGE was like a chrysalis - building, tearing down building, and now after seven years the cocoon has broken open and so as upon wings the enlarged membership of the Alumni of the Henry George School may soar forth into the limitless space of ever-widening Opportunity.

VIVIAN KILIAEN-RODNEY

BYLINE--U.K.

By Dale Breden

(Dale Breden, a SAGE member who took the basic courses by Correspondence, is now attending --THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY)

THE LUNATIC FRINGE

I have lately returned from the National Conference of the Henry George School, in Cleveland, Ohio which truly acted to relieve my apprehensive mind. Be assured I presumed nothing too tragic in nature, but rather a condition of mind on the part of some members of the group. Fortunately that condition did not appear to any great extent; at least it did not appear near enough to me to attract my attention.

The condition of which I speak is one which inclines the sufferer to join many minority organizations for the mere sake of joining and becoming somewhat noted or notorious. It is what my friends and myself prefer to call-- "Lunacy. Those who are afflicted we term members of the "Lunatic Fringe". It appears not only in the Georgist movement but in many others of otherwise high intent. The strange fact is that many of the "lunatic fringe" can actually convince themselves that they accept and believe in the doctrines of those groups they join.

Fortunately we are not too plagued by this "lunatic fringe," of non-thinkers, but everyone of them is potentially dangerous to us. I am being as harsh as possible concerning them for if you think a moment you will see exactly how harmful they could be to the "Incentive Tax" movement. If one of these characters from 'Alice in Wonderland' should approach a friend and start preaching George's philosophy the friend would automatically class it with all the "lunatics" other schemes and immediately shun it. After all, an idea is known by the company that keeps it. Therefore, Georgism would suffer from guilt by association.

Because of this obvious guilt-by-association factor, I actually fear the "fringe". I feel we do not need it and we should not accept it. No one can properly support other movements which demand equal or more time. One cannot be noted for "scheming" and be of aid to us. The "lunatic fringe" should be effectively prevented from worming into George School.

The stoical scheme of supplying our wants by lopping
off our desires is like cutting off our feet when we
want shoes.
Swift

INTERNATIONAL PAGES

CALABAR NIGERIA

Dear Sir:

I am most happy to receive your letter with its enclosures-Lesson I in Social Science and an enrollment card. Thank you immensely for the service and I hope it shall be a continued one.

I am so highly interested in the School and its activities. I regret I have not had the recommended text book, "Progress and Poverty" to start my studies at once as I ought to. I beg you will get the book sent forward to me if possible by air mail. Owing to currency position between Nigeria and your country I find it hard and difficult at the moment to remit the price of the book. If there's any good and easy means that you can direct me to remit the money I shall gratefully do so.

I am mailing my enrollment form to you by surface mail and trust it will safely come to hand before long. I feel sure you will heed to my request as immediately as you can.

Thank you very much for your great effort towards the lifting of humanity economically by the knowledge of your courses.

Looking forward to hearing from you before long,

Yours sincerely,
S.N.Udoh

GOLD COAST WEST AFRICA

Dear Sir:

Thanks very much indeed for "Sage's Pages" which comes to me regularly. The Journal is so wonderful, so strengthening. It seems like someone welcoming me to a good meal when "Sage's Pages" comes to my door. May it develop more of international fellow-feeling, brotherhood and love.

Sincerely yours in the Cause,
Prof., G.C.A. Sivananda-Kotey

TRUTH And A TREE

The right devine that kings once claimed
To trade in nations and bequeath by will,
Where is it now? And where the chattel slave
Whose flesh and blood were legal property?
Injustice, causing both these wrongs must end,
As must, at last, the scourge of poverty!

I see the glow of dawn within the sky,
And trust the order of the universe
To keep the standard I have raised unfurled.
Within the seed where Truth doth germinate
No power can preventm its growth for long;
If flint oppose it, then the flint must yield;
If war drums roll, the Truth their challenge meets
And bids men hear the carol of the lark,
Triumphant, deathless, far above all fears.

The ground wherein the Tree will grow is ploughed,-
So little now, so tender and so weak;
But sometime in its branches birds will sing,
And in its shade the weary shall find rest.

M.L.R.

(A paraphrase of the closing portion of a lecture delivered by Henry George at the Metropolitan Temple, in San Francisco, March 1878.)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

As previously announced, Norman Casserley, International Secretary of the Henry George School and our Alumni Secretary as well, started on his world tour by explaining for Scotland and the International Conference on August 12th in the company of Robert Clancy, Director of the School.

This was the first lap of his journey which embraces more than ten countries, the number depending upon conditions prevalent in such areas when those points are reached.

At the present writing it is too soon to have a comprehensive report ready on his travels, but we expect to have one in the next issue.

Since Norman Casserley took the motion picture camera presented to the school (as a last gift before the transformation of SAGE into the Alumni of the Henry George School), with him on his travels, we feel confident that we can promise one or more interesting meetings in the future, (he is expected back after the first of December) at which pictures taken in the various countries visited from a Georgist viewpoint, will be shown and commented upon.

V.K.R.

PROTECTIONITIS

by James Murphy

The incidence of a certain disease, which for want of a better word let's call "Protectionitis", has been increasing in the last fifty years to the point where scarcely any group of society today is immune to it. Insidiously it has burrowed it's way into the minds and hearts of millions of people all over the globe, bringing in it's wake untold misery and suffering. At one time it was confined to a small segment of the population, the foreign traders, but it's subtle poison of easy money and racketitis soon found it's way into other susceptible hosts such as union workers, manufacturers, farmers, until now there is hardly anyone who does not have some taint of it in his blood.

The virus of "Protectionitis" finds it's firmest foothold in those persons who are most insecure, either about their job, business, or whatever and results in a desperate effort on the part of the infected victim to get legislation passed, which will end his feelings of anxiety. The initial mental state is similar to that of paranoia, in which the person imagines that someone is persecuting him in one way or another. The persecutor can be a cheap foreign laborer or even a cheap southern one, or else a rival shop-keeper. Others may consider their consumers as chisellers and cheats and petition the government to put these greedy consumers in a sort of social quarantine. In keeping with the picture of paranoiac persecution, is the fact that no amount of evidence or reason can shake the victim's belief in the existence of this threat, nor stop his wild attempts to get corrective laws passed. An even greater parallel occurs after the protectionist has succeeded in putting his laws into effect. He finds that instead of allaying his fears, they have only been increased and now he clamors for even stronger laws to "protect" the protection he already has. The paranoid cannot stop until he has enmeshed everyone in his net of intrigue and suspicion. That his actions force other people or nations to pass laws protecting themselves against him only adds fuel to his already flaming distrust. The culmination of this is in daily evidence all around us, in international rivalry, wars and tariff barriers.

EDITOR'S NOTE :

The reason why "protectionitis" has been increasing in the last fifty years is due to the still greater unequal distribution of the produce than existed prior to fifty years ago. With material progress taking such enormous strides both in methods of production and exchange and in the methods in extending the life span of man, more and more land is called into use thus raising land values and encouraging speculation in land.

HENRY GEORGE DAY

ARDEN DELAWARE

AUGUST 27 1955



Joe Stockman, Director of The Henry George School Philadelphia, and Frank Stirlith who has been working for the Henry George Philosophy since June 15th 1895, second day of the Delaware Campaign, engage in a "Friendly" Single Tax Discussion as Miss Lu Cippoloni looks on, at the home of Mrs Ann Ross who arranged the Henry George Day Celebration.

Mr. E. De Forest Curtis, of Arden, Chairman H.G. Day Celebration happily relaxes at home of Ann Ross (right) after day's events in Arden's Field Theatre, while Frank Stirlith (left) continues Single Tax Discussion, and Mrs Stirlith(center) smiles at photographer, Roma Bianco.



Miss Neva Bianco(center) of Brooklyn, N.Y., shows pictures of Henry George Conference in Berea, Ohio, July 1955 to Olive Moore (right) of Philadelphia School, and to College Student (left) from North Carolina, who attended Celebration in Field Theatre, as they wait for dinner to be served at Restaurant after day's events.

SINGLE TAX MEETING JUNE 1895

WILMINGTON DELAWARE

In the year of '95
In the sunny month of June
A curious crowd did meet
On a Sunday afternoon
In Brandywine on the main street.

The quaint old village inn
Was storied with many tales
Of brave deeds of former days,
And of races swift and keen.

Now gone was rural time
A newer age with thoughts quite fine
Drew the crowd past dinner time
To hear a speaker almost devine.

On the time-worn porch was seen
A man with eagle eye and earnest mien.
What message had he in mind
For the folks in Brandywine?

Men and boys with expectant look
Gave rapt attention as he spoke
Of a brighter world as in OUR BOOK;
Magic was in the words of truth and hope.

Justice for all was his theme
Tales and many stories he told
Of how when his scheme
Would bring equality to young and old.

Then quietly the crowd stood by
As the speaker stepped aside,
To greet those whom he knew;
And they to pledge their help anew.

Just a beginning, ever new
Of a different world of thought;
Eagerly, recruits were sought
And they joined the valiant crew.

Many years have passed away
Since that memoraable day,
Some have dropped by the side of the road,
Others saw the vision and the goal.

"CARRY ON" is ever their cry;
We will hold the torch on high,
That all may see the light
And work for JUSTICE! Ever Right!

E.B. Stirlith

BENNETT CHALLIS

Teacher Friend

During early April two men passed through our portals to the Great Beyond -- one, Albert Einstein - the other, Bennett Challis. To some the placing side by side of these two men may seem incongruous and hardly comparable, but this is not so, since both were teachers of great truths, bearing much on the welfare of mankind.

Albert Einstein was a great scientist, known to all the world, who devoted much of his life to Atomic Power which 'tis claimed to be the basis of the physical universe.

Bennett Challis was a great teacher, though known to but comparatively few, who devoted his later life to the teaching of Georgist principles, the true basis of all economics.

Since the writer had the privilege of being a pupil of Mr. Challis' Teachers Training course, she would raise her voice in yet one more tribute to him.

Being thoroughly acquainted with Georgism, no student's problem was too small to merit his attention, no question too trivial to elicit an answer. His unselfish devotion to the spreading of Georgism is well known to all those who were honored with his acquaintance.

Oil from his lamp of learning was freely given to light the torches of economic truth passed on to others, and while now the light of his earthly existence may be extinct, the rays of economic truths as set forth by Henry George, which Bennett Challis taught his students, will shine yet far afield and be to him the type of lasting memorial he would have most desired.

Vivian Kiliaen-Rodney

The equal right of all men to the use of land is as clear as their equal right to breathe the air--it is a right proclaimed by the fact of their existence. For we cannot suppose that some men have a right to be in this world, and others no right." H.G.

REGARDING THE

INCOME TAX

In a recent article of the New York Times Magazine there appears an article by Joseph Nolan on the reaction of a number of citizens to the payment of their income taxes, taking the form of comments written on the tax forms or in enclosed letters. The great majority of the fifty-five million, says Mr. Nolan, write no comments, but the small percentage who do, make up for it by the "violence, sarcasm and deception" discovered on their reports.

After citing examples of such criticisms, the article later makes an attempt to analyze the attitude of the taxpayer and among other explanations cites the Reverend Richard J. Dowling, S.J. Professor of Psychology at Holy Cross College in Worcester, Mass. as commenting:

"Repugnance to tax collection is a persistent infantilism. -- The adult, especially the one who is still in the diaper stage emotionally, complains 'He took my money'. Since his blood and sweat produced the money he can't see why he should fork it over for some confused reason he doesn't understand."

All of us who have read "PROGRESS AND POVERTY" by Henry George, can understand and also sympathize with such a complaint for we can see the logic of such an argument if others cannot. When by his labor a man acquires wealth as the result of his own exertion he justly believes it should be his own to do with as he pleases. To make such a plan possible Henry George explained why and how the government could be supported by taking for the community the land value created by the growing demand of the people for the better and more extensive use of land, rather than permitting this unearned income to go to private landowners.

A gradual reduction of taxes on production, and the increase of taxes on land would ultimately make it possible to support public works by public, not private effort. More land would then be available for agriculture and industry of all kinds. Then for the misleading slogan, "From each according to his ability To each according to his need", there may be substituted the rallying cry, "Equality of opportunity for self-support will make charity unnecessary".

M. L. Rees

MAY THE LEAP BE UPWARDS !



As usual Sage brings news of the world that is worth while as it treats of the methods and activities of arousing and interesting people in the fundamental truths of life. Those engaged in this work seek the means to spread the doctrine of "equal rights to all and special privileges to none" by teaching these truths as expounded by Henry George in Progress & Poverty.

Each generation has had its own methods of doing this work, and much seed has been sown; by street meetings, lectures in churches and halls; appealing to legislative bodies for just laws and lastly the School.

As the pressure of taxation, increases, people are inclined to inquire into the cause, and seek the remedy. The awakening is slowly but surely coming, and it is the responsibility of those who "see the light" to carry on, preparing the way for those who follow, as the way has been prepared for us.

In Chapter 4, Book 10, of Progress & Poverty, Henry George says--"What changes may come, no mortal man can tell, but some change must come!! The civilized world is trembling on the verge of a great movement, either it means a leap upwards which will open the way to advances yet undreamed of, or it must be a plunge downward which will carry us back to barbarism."

May the leap be upwards, and may we help prepare the way for this world shaking drama.

We wish to express our appreciation for Sage's Pages and we will keep them in circulation:

As we have a new milk salesman we are trying to sell him the single tax. He is studying at night in Temple University in Philadelphia. We have given him some literature and the Henry George News. He says he gave them to his father who is connected with a Philadelphia Dairy Company. We are waiting results.

Mr. & Mrs Frank Stirlieth
Wilmington, Delaware.

The ideal social state is not that in which each gets an equal amount of wealth, but in which each gets in proportion to his contribution to the general stock.

H.G.

DISTRIBUTION

IRVING FAUST

Prior to the 1955 Spring Term, 20,000 Invitation to Enrollment Cards were placed in the hands of the Chairman of Distribution, to be disposed of by SAGE members.

While, as usual, the greatest amount of these were distributed by the Chairman and some "faithful few" among them the Bianca sisters, Norman Casserley and Larry Kobac, the return as far as SAGE is concerned, was one of the highest. By the means of coded cards it was determined that SAGE members accounted for one out of every six students enrolled. For the benefit of members and friends who might be contemplating "lending a hand" in future drives, here are some of the means of distribution:

- 1: - Stuck in windshields of autos
- 2: - Tucked behind gum machines in the subway
- 3: - A card placed on the seat of the subway car or bus when leaving
- 4: - stuck up behind the telephone, after using a public booth
- 5: - Handed out on street corners at strategic points
- 6: - Given out during casual conversation

This last means often occurs, for people are naturally curious and seeing one of us placing a card, say on a windshield, would ask questions, so we gave them a brief explanation and of course, handed them a card! Simple, isn't it? Well then, how about joining us in one of our "passing out (cards) parties", as we call them? Could be fun, you know! Let's hear from you!

Irving Faust, Chairman
Distribution Committee

* * * * *

Recently, I was speaking to one of my co-workers about Henry George. He pointed out the manager and said, "He knows about Economics and stuff." I stepped over and asked the manager if he had ever heard of Henry George. His immediate answer was, "Of course, he was the advocate of the single-tax."

This sort of thing is happening more and more often to Georgists every day showing what just a little publicity can do. Imagine what will happen if we make an all out effort.

LARRY KOBAC

* * * * *

STUDENT'S SPEECH

Mildred I Gessmann

Instructor Wm Dunsing

Trade is an integral and vital part of production and, when not limited by protective tariffs, can be a strong and efficient force in the economic and social progress of nations. Men tend naturally to trade and should be encouraged to make it a profitable and worthwhile enterprise free from national and political bias.

The principle of free trade is basically sound and consistent with our great concepts of Freedom and Democracy. All that is needed is a greater capacity for freedom on the part of men and nations and our fears and prejudices vanish.

World trade is the greatest single factor today which, when divorced of politics and political maneuvering can bring peace to the world. Trade brings people into touch with each other and thereby stimulates the exchange of ideas and knowledge.

Free trade operates successfully between the states of our own United States. Just ponder, will you, what would happen if tariff walls were erected between the states. Production would suffer the ills of duplication, high costs, low wages and unemployment.

Lifting tariff walls and encouraging free trade is only a partial solution to the economic problems which beset the world. Because of private ownership in land, the profits would continue to accrue to those who do not produce. The law of supply and demand would continue to operate within an economic pattern of great peaks and valleys. The unequal distribution of wealth would continue to hamper the economic and social progress of men and nations.

Great strides have been made in technological and scientific achievements but social awareness lags behind. This will continue so long as it is necessary for the greater portion of society to expend the bulk of their time and energy in making a living. So deep-rooted is the cause of our social problems in economic injustice, it would require a major reform to unearth it from its long resting place.

Man does not live by bread alone. His greatness does not lie in "things." The power to think, to reason and to conceive great ideas is given him. It is not meant that man should bow down to the dictates of a cruel fate nor is it meant that he should become a servant of his possessions. Material blessings should stir in him the desire to intelligently cooperate as well as compete with his fellowman.

Henry George thought long and deeply about the plight of his fellowmen. A great idea in the form of Land Value Taxation was conceived by him and thought through to a logical conclusion. He gave to economics the common denominator which it needed to make it scientific and with a great function to perform in the interest of freedom and human dignity.



LETTERS

Why is most of the world hungry? Why does poverty show its ugly head even in this, the wealthiest of countries? Why have not the United States, and other nations, adopted the single-tax to relieve them of their economic woes?

The fault is not in our stars but in the lack of our publicity that people have not yet learned the truth which shall make them free. What we must do is every-thing which lies in our power to spread ideas of justice. Talk to your friends about Henry George. Give them each one of the School's term announcement cards. Participate in distribution parties. Make contributions to the School in both time and money. Write letters to the newspapers, to your representatives in Congress and in the State Legislature.

Why not send a letter similar to the sample below with a pertinent Schalkenbach Foundation Booklet and a Fundamental Economics Enrollment card to one or more of the various mainstays of the community such as lawyers, teachers, religious leaders, legislators, and doctors, etc. They could make powerful advocates of our cause.

SAMPLE LETTER

As an interegral part of the community, as a guide and advisor, as an indispensable adjunct of society it is important for you to be aware of what is going on in the field of Economics as well as that of (Law, Education, Theology, Medicine, etc.). You should be cognizant of the various theories designed for social betterment, for the alleviation of poverty, for the up-lifting of the masses.

The enclosed booklet is an enlightening, although superficial (due to its brevity), presentation of one such theory.

You owe it to yourself and to your (clients, students, congregation, patients, constituents, etc.) to read this booklet.

For more information write the Henry George School of Social Science. If you are interested sufficiently, mail the enclosed card for a free class or correspondence course.

 "The man who gives me employment, which I must have or suffer, that man is my master, let me call him what I will."

Henry George--Social Problems.

YOUR NAME IN PRINT

Read and also write to your local newspapers thus keeping yourself and others informed with current ideas.

Other letters written by our students and teachers and which were published in other newspapers will appear in future issues of Sage's Pages.

POVERTY—PROSPERITY

Mr. Medicus, in Today's Letters, asked: "How much prosperity is needed to eliminate the staggering millions of needy in a nation enjoying the greatest prosperity in history?"

It seems no amount of prosperity can do away with the needy—poverty always seems to follow in the footsteps of progress. Why? Is it the natural result of material progress?

I suggest that Mr. Medicus read "Progress and Poverty" by Henry George (available in all public libraries), and he will learn why an increasing amount of prosperity will never cure poverty.

—Roma Bianco, Brooklyn.

* Letters reprinted *
* by permission of *
* New York Daily *
* Mirror. *

A PROPOSAL

Gerosa's plan to increase taxation on real estate will not solve the city's revenue problem since increased taxation will discourage investors from erecting new dwellings. As an alternative, I suggest that improvements on real estate be exempted from taxes, and that land values be taxed sufficiently to make up the deficit.

—L. Kobak, L. I.

Henry George School

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